Holyhead line, on 13th May, 1846, formally to appoint him joint engineer with Mr. Stephenson for the bridges, and, as to these, on principles of perfect equality with him. The working plans even went forth with Mr. Fairbairn's name alone attached to them; he was authorised to engage the workmen, and he was fully recognised as the acting engineer: indeed, Mr. Stephenson himself, on one occasion, says, "I consider *you as acting with me in every department* of the proceedings."

So much, then, for the assistance which Mr. Fairbairn afforded in the realization of Mr. Stephenson's theory and principle. The original idea, as already said, Mr. Fairbairn freely accords to him.*

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL AND ITS SCULPTURES.

THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

In our last number we gave a brief notice of the Archæological Institute's proceedings at Salisbury, wherein we purposely omitted mention of the gloom that was unfortunately thrown over them by the prevalence of cholera in the town, which led the Bishop to decline receiving the Institute, and made the entertainment given by the corporation a silent meeting.

Of some of the places visited we may speak hereafter. On the present occasion we must confine ourselves chiefly to the papers on the cathedral and its sculptures.†

At the opening meeting the Hon. Sidney Herbert, the president, made an excellent address. In the course of it, when speaking of Wiltshire, he said,—In this county, at Malmesbury, lived Hobbes, the philosopher; at Salisbury lived Harris, the author of "Hermes;" in this county resided the late Lord Arundel of Wardour, and near him his acquaintance the late Sir Richard Colt Hoare, who has done so much for the topography of the county. Lord Clarendon took his title from a town in this county; and not far from Old Sarum stands or stood an old manor-house in which Chatham lived when a youth. From that house went forth a young man as a cornet of dragoons, whose voice afterwards thundered through Europe—that man was Lord Chatham. It was impossible to look at that humble village without feeling some emotions in contemplating the spot whence that great man had gone forth, and whose gigantic intellectual proportions are shrouded only by the figure of his still more illustrious son. But Wiltshire had given birth also to poets. He had already spoken of Massinger as having seen the light at Wilton. At Bemerton lived the good George Herbert. And here he would remark what an interesting scene must that have been between him and Laud, when he tried to remove his scruples respecting the cure of souls. No man (said the speaker) was prepared to grapple with the future who had not studied and investigated the past. They had a right to claim in this district examples of wisdom, learning, ability, and poetry: and there was no walk of life in which inspiration could not be drawn from the contemplation of the worth and merits of departed genius.

The Bishop of Oxford who followed, said, It was true that there was an aspect in which antiquarian pursuits may be viewed, as a collection only of the dust as it were of the past, as if virtue and goodness had had no existence. With such a spirit he felt sure that the members had no sympathy. This was the abuse, and not the use of antiquarian pursuits. He knew that there were pursuits connected with antiquarian investigation which may not be abused, and which lifted up the mind and heart to the reverence of the only living and true God. The past may be studied, as if it was better than the present; and we may do nothing but lament the past; but the wise man will learn lessons from it to guide him in the future, and will thank God for the rich inheritance which has been handed down to him from his forefathers; while at the same time he will not overvalue the present, but will find in more senses than one, when he looks back into the history of past ages, that there were indeed "giants in those days." One of the chief merits of a cultivated mind and taste was that of drawing the materials of present enjoyment out of the past and future. This is not mere fancy; not mere imagination. It was taking a practical view of the question; for it was wholly impossible for a man to understand even things around him without investigating those times that had gone before him—without viewing the past in the present. And in the course of such investigations he will stay the hand of sweeping innovation, inasmuch as he will see a use and a meaning which he could not otherwise have discovered, and he will observe how necessary many things that he could not before understand are to the constitution and fabric of society.

The illustration of

THE CATHEDRAL

was, as usual, entrusted to Professor Willis. He said, that in the other cathedrals which he had explained he had been enabled to trace how each building had grown up by degrees—as at York, Lincoln, Winchester, and Ely—but at Salisbury no cathedral existed previously to the present. This cathedral was erected during the early English period in its best character, containing all traces of the purest style of that era. It was on this account that it was valuable to the student, as affording an independent and unfettered example of the style without mixture. He had never seen such perfect unity of design, even to the mouldings, as was exhibited in this cathedral. The original design was so well preserved that it was almost next to impossible to find out what part was erected first. The tower and spire, and all above the roofs, contain the style in a higher state of development, being erected at a later period than the body of the church, while the cloisters also are later. He would refer to the history of the building. The first Bishop of Sarum—the see being removed from Wilton to Old Sarum—was Herman, who was succeeded by Osmond, who built his cathedral in 1093, in the midst of the fortress. This situation was a great inconvenience to the bishop; and there was also a great want of water for the inhabitants of the city, so that in fact as much money was paid for water as for wine. All these circumstances are set forth in the Bull of Pope Honorius the Third, which was granted March 29, 1218, by which permission was given to remove the see. In 1219 it was agreed to remove from Old Sarum, and a wooden chapel was erected for the performance of the service, instead of remaining in the old church. In 1220 the foundations of the cathedral were laid, and in 1225 the services of the church were performed within it. And there was one curious peculiarity in this ceremony, not seen elsewhere, viz., the great number of stones which were laid, one for the Pope, one for the Archbishop, one for the Bishop himself, one for Longespee, and another for his wife; and some time afterwards others laid stones also. He never recollected a parallel case in the history of the foundation of any church. From 1223 to 1246 Bishop Bingham carried on the works with great activity, and completed them—including the body of the structure and the west front, without the tower and spire, which were afterwards added. In 1258 the cathedral was dedicated—during the episcopate of Bishop Bridport. The cloister and chapter-house were erected during the latter part of the thirteenth century; and by examining the monument of Bishop Bridport, who was buried in 1262, it will be seen that it is of the same date in point of architectural characteristics as the style of the cloisters and chapter-house. It appears that the tower and spire were not contemplated by the original architect, and no provisions had been made for their erection; neither is there any distinct historical record of the time of their construction. But in the chapter records exists a contract by that body with an architect named Richard Farleigh, that he should carry on the work. Thus the name of the architect who erected the tower and spire is known to us. But great as he might have been as an architect, his skill was but small as an engineer, as he ran the risk of crushing down the structure, by the erection of so mighty a tower,—the piers and arches of which never were intended to carry a stone spire. No sooner was the erection of the tower and spire completed than the chapter were in great dismay, and endeavoured to get funds for strengthening the building. In the year 1415 arrangements were made for continuing the repairs of the fabric; for an indenture was made in that year between the chapter and Nicholas Wayte, mason, who constructed the braces, buttresses, and arches, which prevented the tower and spire from falling. This was the last great event of any kind, until the building of the Hungerford and Beauchamp Chapels, which have been removed. In consequence of the havoc which had occurred to the church, we find that after the Restoration Sir Christopher Wren was called on to examine the building, and to fit up the choir and chancel, and to this examination we owe one of the most curious reports ever penned. He mingles in his reports mistakes respecting the style of architecture, while he comments freely on the structure in a mechanical point of view. He admires it exceedingly; but is, however, full of prejudice against what he considers to be the corrupted style of the edifice. The next event was the alteration of the church, under Bishops Hume and Barrington, when the building suffered from an experiment of Wyatt,—it being left to his own judgment as to the manner in which the repairs should be carried out. He did not look at this building with reference to the system upon which it was erected; for it must be borne in mind that this and similar ones must be viewed not so much as mere works of art, but as monumental remains of a peculiar state of architectural science. (Hear, hear.) Neither Wyatt nor his employers acted upon this view of the subject. The changes which Wyatt made in the cathedral were totally irrespective of the uses to which the various portions of the church had been applied. Thus the church was full of screens, arranged and adapted according to the ceremonies of the ancient ritual. It also contained monuments of the pious founders of the church and other eminent persons, and the site on which they stood was in every way connected with the life and purpose of the persons who were buried beneath them. These memorials of primitive times Wyatt removed—no feeling of historical association having entered his head—and he placed them in a row under the pillars of the nave! He also pulled down the Hungerford and Beauchamp Chapels, which were erected in the Perpendi-

* It appears, however, that Mr. Stephenson, even as the originator of the idea of a wrought-iron railway tunnel, is not to be left in quiet possession of his laurels. We do not mean to enter into any controversy on either of these questions, but simply to state that Mr. De la Haye, of Liverpool, whose claims we long ago announced, has sent us a long communication, in which he reminds us of this, and retraces the principal facts and circumstances, which are simply these:—In September, 1844, Mr. De la Haye placed a pamphlet,—published by him five months before at Jersey, and titled, "A Plan for passing Rivers and Channels by means of Wrought-iron Tunnels,"—in the hands of Mr. Smith, editor of the *Liverpool Mercury*, who advised him "to see Sir Joshua Walmsley, at his office in Brunswick-street, and ask him to submit it to his friend George Stephenson, the great engineer. He is a practical man and a bold thinker," adds the editor, "and you would most likely be well guided by his advice.—P.S. You may use my name to Sir Joshua." Mr. De la Haye accordingly saw Sir Joshua, who examined the pamphlet, but "thought the scheme, involving such gigantic works, would not be approved by G. S." This circumstance occurred eight months before Mr. Stephenson's first announcement of an intention to form a wrought-iron tunnel-bridge at Menai, so that it seemed clear at all events that his friend Sir Joshua had no cognizance of such an intention on his part at that time. He, nevertheless, undertook to bring Mr. De la Haye's scheme under the notice of Mr. Stephenson on the following day, when he would see him. "Eight months afterwards," Mr. De la Haye remarks, "Mr. Stephenson proposed a wrought-iron railway tunnel for the Menai Straits, and a few weeks after, a paragraph appeared in the *Liverpool Mercury*, in which it was stated that I had proposed iron tunnels for railway purposes long before G. S., and a rather broad hint was given that the idea had been borrowed from my inventions; but in spite of this, and of the remarks which appeared in THE BUILDER, G. S. never attempted to prove that his was a distinct invention. . . . . The iron tunnel which I had proposed," also observes the writer, in allusion to his pamphlet, "was to be constructed in divisions of 400 feet in length, each division being made perfectly rigid, in order to sustain a weight independent of central support, as I supposed that the bed of the water [at Dover straits] might be as uneven as the surface of the sea during a storm." Mr. De la Haye, of course, is quite aware of the distinction between a submarine tunnel and a tunnel-bridge; but he seems to think that all Mr. Stephenson had to do in handing it over from the originator to the maturer, was to "dish it out of the water." Previous to the publication of his pamphlet, beginning of 1844, Mr. De la Haye believes that "the words wrought-iron railway tunnel had never appeared together in type." A description of his invention was given in *The Artizan* shortly after THE BUILDER had recorded his claim, but although it was therein admitted "that this plan is identical with that proposed by Mr. Stephenson," still it was held that Mr. Stephenson cannot be fairly charged with plagiarism, inasmuch as the plan [of Mr. De la Haye] was never matured—a mere hint alone being given." Had the rival plan been itself matured, such an argument might have had some force, but in the circumstances it appears to Mr. De la Haye to be rather a two-edged weapon, inasmuch as *his* plan, though it might not be *perfect*, was not a mere hint, but had cost him "years of thought and months of labour," before a single experiment was made by Mr. Fairbairn to *mature* Mr. Stephenson's suggestion.

† Reported at greater length in the *Salisbury and Wiltshire Herald*, and also in the *Journal*.

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